

URBAN DISTRICT OF
GRASMERE.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1923.

1924.

“Herald” Printing Works, Ambleside.

URBAN DISTRICT OF GRASMERE.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Grasmere.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your information my Annual Report on the health of your district for the year 1923.

It again takes the form of an ordinary report as defined in paragraph 3 of Circular 269 of the 28th December, 1921, and contains but a brief outline of the more important phases of the work prepared on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health.

I would take this opportunity of acknowledging the very valuable assistance I have received from all your officials, but especially would I mention the work of the Sanitary Inspector, which has always been most efficient, prompt and reliable, thus enabling me to keep in touch with all that is transpiring.

My thanks are also due to the Medical Profession for their valuable assistance in furthering the interests of Public Health. Statutory notifications are with few exceptions regularly complied with.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. BARON COCKILL,

Medical Officer of Health,
Westmorland Combined Districts.

21st March, 1924.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	7,333
Population (1923)	...	...	...	...	...	878
Number of inhabited houses (census 1921)	...	...	...	...	...	182
Number of families or separate occupiers (census 1921)	...	...	...	...	...	189
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£8,833	2 6
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£36	16 1

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Males.		Females.		Total.
Births (Legitimate)	...	13	...	3	...	16
„ (Illegitimate)	...	—	...	—	...	—
	Birth Rate	...	18			
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	10
	Death Rate	...	11			

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—

From Sepsis... .. Nil.

From other causes Nil.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births:—

Legitimate Nil.

Illegitimate Nil.

Total Nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil.

„ „ Whooping-cough (all ages) Nil.

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years) Nil.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

There were no cases of deaths from Tuberculosis where the disease had not previously been notified. The notification of all known cases of Tuberculosis has invariably been carried out. One of these cases was an imported one. Occupational conditions have had no influence in these cases.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... Nil.

4. CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

There have been no specially noteworthy causes of sickness or invalidity in the District, other than an epidemic of Measles in the spring.

5. SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITAL AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE IN THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home :—

(a) General District Nursing Association.

(b) Infectious Disease, e.g.

Measles, etc. " " "

District Nursing Associations are voluntary organisations receiving grants in aid from the County Council.

Midwives :—

There are no practising midwives in the District.

Clinics and Treatment Centres :—

Tuberculosis Dispensary at Kendal.

Travelling School, Dental Clinic.

Hospital.	Situation.	Accommodation.
Tuberculosis	Meathop, Grange-over-Sands.	... 150 beds
Maternity and Children	Nil.	... —
Fever	Isolation Hospital, Grasmere	... 6 beds
Smallpox	Woodside, near Kendal	... 50 beds
Ethel Hedley Hospital		
School (Orthopædic)	Calgarth, Windermere	... 30 beds
Venereal Disease... ..	North Lonsdale Hospital, Barrow-in-Furness	—

The Westmorland County Hospital contains 50 beds, available for all Non-infectious, Medical, Surgical, and abnormal Midwifery cases. A new Maternity Ward is in course of erection. It is supported by voluntary contributions.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, etc. :—

St. Monica's Maternity Home, under control of the Carlisle Diocesan Maternity Committee.

3.—Notifiable Diseases.

DISEASES.	Total.	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2

Tuberculosis :—

Age Periods.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
10 - 15	—	—	—	1
15 - 20	1	—	—	—
25 - 35	1	—	—	—
	2	—	—	1

The influence of overcrowding has had no measurable effect upon the incidence of notifiable disease.



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Ambulance Facilities :—

- (a) Infectious cases.—Horse Ambulance.
- (b) Non-infectious cases.—St. John Ambulance Brigade.

6. LABORATORY WORK.

The Combined Districts of Westmorland have provided Laboratories at Kendal, to which any Practitioner may send specimens for examination. Sputum is also examined at Meathop Sanatorium. No specimens have been sent this year.

Diphtheria antitoxin is issued free for the treatment of all necessitous cases, excepting patients under the National Health Insurance Act; also for both necessitous and insured persons for prophylactic purposes.

7. SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

List of Adoptive Acts, Bye-laws and Local Regulations..

Adoptive Acts.					Adopted.
Part III. Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 ...					1891
Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890 ...					1891
Bye-laws.					
Cemeteries	...	...	...	...	1899
Prevention of Nuisances	...	...	...	...	1901
Cleansing of Footways, Pavements, and Removal of					
Refuse	...	...	...	...	1901
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	1901
New Streets and Buildings	...	...	...	...	1901
Regulations under Section 13, Dairies, Cowsheds, and					
Milkshops Order (1885)	...	...	...	...	1907

TABULAR STATEMENT OF THE WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Inspections :—

These have been regularly carried out and the following nuisances discovered and abated :—

Defective Drains	...	...	...	9
Defective Cesspools	...	...	...	6
Defective Roofs and Spouts	...	...	...	7
Total				22

No statutory notices, but 22 informal notices have been served.

Closet Accommodation :—

Water Closets	...	...	...	244
Privies	...	...	...	136

Total ... 380

There have been four conversions of Privies into Water Closets during the year.

Regular inspection of Slaughter-houses, Dairies and Cow-sheds, Butchers' Shops and Bakehouses has been made, and the sanitary condition of all premises where food is prepared, stored or exposed for sale is good.

The Register under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, shows seven registered retailers.

There are two private Slaughter-houses, which have been efficiently maintained.

Disinfection with formalin is carried out after all infectious cases, and bedding, clothing, etc., is disinfected in the steam disinfecter at Windermere Isolation Hospital.

No facilities for disinfestation exist.

A pamphlet on Smallpox was supplied to all Medical Practitioners.

A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on November 6th to consider an application to borrow the sum of £1,700 for the purpose of providing Council Premises, Public Conveniences, and Road Improvements. This was granted.

8. STAFF.

Name.	Qualification.	Office.	Whole or part time.	Other Offices.	Salaries contributed under P.H.A. or Exchequer Grants.
W. B. Cockill	M.D., etc. D.P.H.	M.O.H.	Part	M.O.H. Westmorland Combined Districts	Yes
A. F. Fildes	M.I.M.C.E.	Sanitary Inspector	Part	Surveyor	Yes

9. HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	4
(b) With State assistance under The Housing Acts, 1919 or 1923	...	...	...	...	Nil.
1. Unfit Dwelling-houses :—					
Inspection. (1) Total number of Dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	22
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	Nil.
2.—Remedy of Defects without service of formal Notices :—					
Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	...	22
3.—Action under Statutory Powers	...	...	...	...	Nil.

